

Medical Necessity Criteria Proposed Changes

Proposals:

1. Update COMAR and Optum Provider Manual to reflect the following for each adult service (except targeted case management), including mobile treatment, residential rehabilitation, and psychiatric rehabilitation program:

The specific diagnostic criteria may be waived for the following three conditions:

- A participant committed as not criminally responsible who is conditionally released from a BHA facility; Or
- A participant in a BHA facility or a BHA-funded inpatient psychiatric hospital that requires community services. This excludes participants eligible for Developmental Disabilities Administration’s residential services.
- A transition age youth, ages 16-25.

2. Update COMAR and Optum Provider Manual to reflect the following for child targeted case management:

The specific diagnostic criteria may be waived for the following condition:

- A transition age youth, ages 16-25.

Service	Current Child	Current Adult	Proposed Alignment
Targeted Case Management	Targeted Case Management Child and Adolescent are care coordination services are provided to assist participants in gaining access to needed medical, mental health, social, educational and other services. When participants have a mental disorder that requires professional evaluation and treatment, they should be treated at the least intensive setting able to meet their medical needs. Satisfaction of all admission and continued care criteria must be documented in the clinical record based upon	Targeted Case Management - Adult services are provided to assist participants in gaining access to needed medical, mental health, social, educational, and other services. When participants have a mental disorder that requires professional evaluation and treatment, they should be treated at the least intensive setting able to meet their medical needs. Satisfaction of all admission and continued care criteria must be documented in the clinical record based upon the conditions and factors	

	<p>the conditions and factors identified below before treatment will be authorized.</p>	<p>identified below before treatment will be authorized.</p>	
	<p>Admission Criteria All of the following criteria are necessary for admission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participant has a PBHS specialty mental health DSM-5 diagnosis which requires, and is likely to respond to, therapeutic intervention. • The participant is at-risk of, or needs continued community treatment to prevent inpatient psychiatric treatment. • The participant is at-risk of, or needs continued community treatment to prevent treatment in a residential treatment center (RTC). • The participant is at-risk of and out of home placement due to multiple behavioral health stressors. • The participant requires community treatment and support in order to prevent or address emergency room utilization due to multiple behavioral health stressors; or • The participant 	<p>Admission Criteria The following criteria are necessary for admission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participant has a PBHS specialty mental health DSM-5 diagnosis which requires, and is likely to respond to, therapeutic intervention; And Either • The participant is at-risk of or needs continued community treatment to prevent inpatient psychiatric treatment; Or • The participant is at-risk of or needs community treatment to prevent being homeless; Or • The participant is at-risk of incarceration or will be released from a detention center or prison. <p>The specific diagnostic criteria may be waived for the following two conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An participant committed as not criminally responsible who is conditionally released from a BHA facility; Or • A participant in a 	<p>The child specific diagnostic criteria may be waived for the following condition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A transition age youth, ages 16-25.

	<p>requires community treatment and support in order to prevent or address homelessness or housing instability, or otherwise lacking in permanent, safe housing; or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participant requires community treatment and support in order to prevent or address arrest or incarceration due to multiple behavioral health stressors. 	<p>BHA facility or a BHA-funded inpatient psychiatric hospital that requires community services. This excludes participants eligible for Developmental Disabilities Administration’s residential services.</p>	
Mobile Treatment	<p>Mobile Treatment Services (MTS) Child and Adolescent are designed for children and adolescents with serious mental disorders which are exemplified by non-compliance and vulnerability to provide treatment in the least intensive setting that is able to meet the participant’s clinical needs. These services are provided by a multidisciplinary treatment team and are available to the participant on a 24/7 basis.</p>	<p>Mobile Treatment Services (MTS) are designed for adults with serious mental disorders who exemplify a lack of adherence to traditional services and vulnerability. MTS provides treatment in the least intensive setting that is able to meet the participant’s clinical needs. These services are provided by a multidisciplinary treatment team and are available to the participant on a 24/7 basis.</p>	

	<p>Admission Criteria</p> <p>All of the following criteria are necessary for admission:</p> <p>The participant has a primary DSM-5 diagnosis that is the cause of significant psychological impairment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participant is at-risk for out-of-home placement and either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The participant has not maintained, on a continuous basis, community mental health services that are prescribed ○ The participant is exhibiting behavior that is a risk of harm or self-harm • The primary caretaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Has the goal of maintaining the child or adolescent safely in the home ○ Agrees to participate in MTS 	<p>Admission Criteria</p> <p>All of the following criteria are necessary for admission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participant has a PBHS specialty mental health DSM-5 diagnosis included in the priority population, which is the cause of significant psychological, personal care, and social impairment. • The impairments result in at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A clear, current threat to the participant’s ability to live in his/her customary setting, or the participant is homeless and would meet the criteria for a higher level of care if mobile treatment services were not provided; or is in a state institution or inpatient psychiatric facility and with the introduction of mobile treatment level of care would be able to return to living in his/her customary setting. ○ An emerging risk to self, property, or others, or the participant would experience 	<p>The specific diagnostic criteria may be waived for the following three conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A participant committed as not criminally responsible who is conditionally released from a BHA facility; Or • A participant in a BHA facility or a BHA-funded inpatient psychiatric hospital that requires community services. This excludes participants eligible for Developmental Disabilities Administration’s residential services. • A transition age youth, ages 16-25.
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		<p>heightened risk in these areas if mobile treatment services were not provided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inability to engage in, participate in, and benefit from traditional outpatient treatment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inability to form a therapeutic relationship on an ongoing basis as evidenced by one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Frequent use of emergency rooms/crisis services for psychiatric reasons; ○ A pattern of repeated psychiatric inpatient facility admissions or long-standing psychiatric hospitalizations; or ○ Arrest for reasons associated with the participant's mental illness. <p>The specific diagnostic criteria may be waived for the following two conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A participant committed as not criminally responsible who is conditionally released from a BHA facility; Or ● A participant in a BHA facility or a BHA-funded inpatient psychiatric hospital that requires 	
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		community services. This excludes participants eligible for Developmental Disabilities Administration’s residential services.	
Residential Rehabilitation	Residential Crisis Services are provided on a short-term basis in a community-based residential setting to prevent a psychiatric inpatient admission or the need for a prolonged acute hospitalization. When participants have a mental disorder that requires professional evaluation and treatment, they should be treated at the least intensive setting able to meet their medical needs. Satisfaction of all admission and continued care criteria must be documented in the clinical record based upon the conditions and factors identified below before treatment will be authorized.	Residential Rehabilitation Program (RRP) for adults provides support in a residence outside of the participant’s own home and provides needed resources and support not sufficiently available within the participants own existing social support system. RRP’s provide services based upon the participant’s needs in varying levels of support—general and intensive—and are subject to additional admission/continued stay criteria. These services are to promote a participant’s ability to engage and participate in appropriate community activities and to enable the participant to develop the daily living skills that are needed for independent functioning. RRP’s provide services based upon the participant’s needs in varying levels of support—general and intensive—and are subject to additional	

		<p>admission/continued stay criteria. Please see criteria for Residential Rehabilitation Program – Intensive - Adult. General support staff is available on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week and provides at a minimum, three face-to-face contacts per participant per week, or 13 face-to-face contacts per month. When participants have a mental disorder that requires professional evaluation and treatment, they should be treated at the least intensive setting able to meet their medical needs. Satisfaction of all admission and continued care criteria must be documented in the clinical record based upon the conditions and factors identified below before treatment will be authorized.</p>	
	<p>Admission Criteria All of the following criteria are necessary for admission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participant has a PBHS specialty mental health DSM-5 diagnosis which requires, and is likely to respond to, therapeutic intervention. • The participant is at-risk for hospitalization or continued hospitalization. • There is a need for immediate intervention because the participant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is at-risk for harm of him or herself or others, or 	<p>All of the following criteria are necessary for admission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participant has a PBHS specialty mental health DSM-5 diagnosis, included in the priority population, which is the cause of significant functional and psychological impairment, and the participant’s condition can be expected to be stabilized through the provision of medically necessary supervised residential services in conjunction with medically necessary treatment, rehabilitation, and 	<p>The specific diagnostic criteria may be waived for the following three conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A participant committed as not criminally responsible who is conditionally released from a BHA facility; Or • A participant in a BHA facility or a BHA-funded inpatient psychiatric hospital that

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is experiencing rapid deterioration of functioning as a result of psychiatric symptoms • All less intensive levels of treatment have been determined to be unsafe or unsuccessful. 	<p>support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The participant requires active support to ensure the adequate, effective coping skills necessary to live safely in the community, participate in self-care and treatment, and manage the effects of his/her illness. As a result of the participant's clinical condition (impaired judgment, behavior control, or role functioning) there is significant current risk of one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hospitalization or other inpatient care as evidenced by the current course of illness or by the past history of the illness. ○ Harm to him or herself or others as a result of the mental illness and as evidenced by the current behavior or past history. ○ Deterioration in functioning in the absence of a supported community-based residence that would lead to the other items. • The participant's own resources and social support system are not adequate to provide the level of residential support and supervision currently needed as evidenced for example, by one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The participant has no residence and no 	<p>requires community services. This excludes participants eligible for Developmental Disabilities Administration's residential services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A transition age youth, ages 16-25.
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		<p>social support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The participant has a current residential placement, but the existing placement does not provide sufficiently adequate supervision to ensure safety and ability to participate in treatment. ○ The participant has a current residential placement, but the participant is unable to use the existing residence to ensure safety and ability to participate in treatment, or the relationships are dysfunctional and undermine the stability of treatment. ● The participant is judged to be able to reliably cooperate with the rules and supervision provided and to contract reliably for safety in the supervised residence. ● All less intensive levels of treatment have been determined to be unsafe or unsuccessful. <p>The specific diagnostic criteria may be waived for the following two conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A participant committed as not criminally responsible who is conditionally released from a BHA facility; Or <p>A participant in a BHA facility or a BHA-funded inpatient</p>	
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		psychiatric hospital that requires community services. This excludes participants eligible for Developmental Disabilities Administration's residential services.	
PRP	<p>Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program (PRP) services are for children and adolescents with serious mental illness of emotional disturbance who have been referred by a licensed professional of the healing arts based on a screening, assessment, or ongoing treatment of the participant. The services must be goal directed and outcome focused. The services are time-limited interventions provided only as long as they continue to be medically necessary to reduce symptoms of the participant's mental illness and to restore the participant to an appropriate functional level. When participants have a mental disorder that requires professional evaluation and treatment, they should be treated at the least intensive setting able to meet their medical needs. Satisfaction of all admission and continued care criteria must be documented in the clinical record based upon the conditions and factors identified below before treatment will be authorized.</p>	<p>Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program (PRP) services facilitate the participant's recovery and develop or restore a participant's independent living and social skills, including the participant's ability to make decisions regarding: selfcare management of illness, life, work and community participation; and promote the use of resources to integrate the participant into the community. Services may be provided in an onsite facility, or in a setting most conducive to promoting the participation of the participant in community life. When participants have a mental disorder that requires professional evaluation and treatment, they should be treated at the least intensive setting that is able to meet their medical needs. Satisfaction of all admission and continued care criteria must be documented in the clinical record based upon the conditions and factors identified below before treatment will be authorized.</p>	

	<p>Admission Criteria All of the following criteria are necessary for admission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The participant has a PBHS specialty mental health DSM-5 diagnosis, and the participant's impairment(s) and functional behavior can reasonably be expected to be improved or maintained by using these services. The participant's mental illness is the cause of serious dysfunction in one or more life domains (home, school, community). The impairment as a result of the participant's mental illness results in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clear, current threat to the participant's ability to be maintained in his/her customary setting An emerging/pending risk to the safety of the participant and others Other evidence of significant psychological or social impairments, such as inappropriate social behavior, causing serious problems with peer relationships and/or family members The participant, due to the dysfunction, is at-risk for requiring a higher level of care, or is returning from a higher level of care. The participant's condition requires an integrated program of rehabilitation services to develop and restore independent living skills to support the participant's recovery. The participant does not require a more intensive level of care and is judged to be in 	<p>Admission Criteria All of the following criteria are necessary for admission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The participant has a PBHS specialty mental health DSM-5 diagnosis included in the priority population and the participant's impairment(s) can be expected to be stabilized at this level of care. The impairment results in at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clear, current threat to the participant's ability to live in his/her customary setting An inability to be employed or attend school without support An inability to manage the effects of his/her mental illness The participant's condition requires an integrated program of rehabilitation services to develop and restore independent living skills to support the participant's recovery. The participant must be concurrently engaged in outpatient mental health treatment. All participants residing in a RRP must have PRP services available. The participant does not require a more intensive level of care. All less intensive levels of treatment have been determined to be unsafe 	<p>The specific diagnostic criteria may be waived for the following three conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A participant committed as not criminally responsible who is conditionally released from a BHA facility; Or A participant in a BHA facility or a BHA-funded inpatient psychiatric hospital that requires community services. This excludes participants eligible for Developmental Disabilities Administration's residential services. A transition age youth, ages 16-25.
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	<p>ough behavioral control to be safe in the rehabilitation program and benefit from the habilitation provided.</p> <p>documented crisis response plan for the participant is in progress or completed.</p> <p>an individual rehabilitation plan (RP) is in progress or completed.</p> <p>RP services will be rendered by staff that are supervised by a licensed mental health professional. And Either there is clinical evidence that the current intensity of outpatient treatment will not be sufficient to reduce the participant's symptoms and functional behavioral impairment resulting from the mental illness and restore him/her to an appropriate functional level, or prevent functional deterioration, or avert the need to initiate a more intensive level of care due to current risk to the participant or others, Or</p> <p>or participant transitioning from an inpatient, day hospital or residential treatment setting to a community setting there is clinical evidence that PRP services will be necessary to prevent clinical deterioration and support successful transition back to the community, or avert the need to initiate or continue a more intensive level of care.</p>	<p>or unsuccessful.</p> <p>The specific diagnostic criteria may be waived for the following two conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A participant committed as not criminally responsible who is conditionally released from a BHA facility; Or • A participant in a BHA facility or a BHA-funded inpatient psychiatric hospital that requires community services. This excludes participants eligible for Developmental Disabilities Administration's residential services. 	
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